

## Claims

We claim:

- 5           1.     A method for implementing a measurement/control loop, the method comprising:
- executing a measurement/control program;
- executing a simulation program, wherein the simulation program is operable to simulate a system;
- 10          receiving a request for input from the measurement/control program, wherein the request for input is formulated as a request to read the input from a hardware device;
- routing the request for input to the simulation program;
- receiving request results from the simulation program;
- passing the request results received from the simulation program to the
- 15          measurement/control program.